

BOOK REVIEWS

MAYES, VERNON O. AND BARBARA BAYLESS LACY. 1989. *Nanise' A Navajo Herbal. One hundred plants from the Navajo Reservation.* Navajo Community College Press, Tsaile, Arizona.

An interesting text on the common plants found on the Navajo Indian Reservation in the "Four Corners Area" of Arizona, Utah, Colorado and New Mexico, a 25,000 square mile area. Each plant is presented with an illustration, scientific name and pronunciation guide, the derivation and the Navajo name. Each plant is briefly described and its association with other plants is briefly mentioned. The Navajo uses of the plant is also described followed by references from the ethnobotany literature. An interesting book from an unusual region of the United States. John E. Ubelaker.

KINDSCHER, KELLY. 1987. *Edible Wild Plants of the Prairie. An Ethnobotanical Guide.* The University Press of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas 66045. Paper.

An introductory text that introduces wildflower enthusiasts to the value of numerous native and introduced plants of the Great Plains. The text resulted from an 80 day walk across Kansas and eastern Colorado by the author. Presented are line illustrations of common plants, Indians names for the plants, followed by a brief description and habitat. A substantial section involves the food uses of the plants as well as food mythology and beliefs by the American Indians. The book is well written and enjoyable to read. John E. Ubelaker.

STUBBENDIECK, JAMES AND ELVERNE C. CONARD. 1989. *Common Legumes of the Great Plains, An Illustrated Guide.* Illustrated by Bellamy Parks Jansen. University of Nebraska Press, 901 N. 17th St., Lincoln, NE 68588-0520. Hardbound \$35.00. 330 pp.

An illustrated manual treating 107 species in detail common to the Great Plains. This includes full page illustrations accompanying the text of each taxon. The text contains a species description, synonymy, agronomic and wildlife data, food, medicinal, and other uses by American Indians and pioneers. Dichotomous keys are provided from the family level down to the species treated within each genus when there are more than one per genus. The excellent diagrammatic illustrations greatly enhance this publication. wfm